

**MURRAY PARKS AND RECREATION  
ADVISORY BOARD**

**Minutes of Meeting**

**Wednesday, July 14, 2010**

**Board Members in Attendance**

Morgan Selph, Vice Chair  
Dani Murakami  
Bob Vanbibber

**Excused:** Ted Eyre  
Lisa Nelson, Chair

**Staff**

Doug Hill  
Marci Williams  
Cory Plant

**Visitors**

University of Utah Students: Kade Walton & Jeremy Jones

**Presenter**

Scott Wilkinson, ASWN

The Parks & Recreation Board Meeting was called to order at 5:35pm by Vice Chair, Morgan Selph. Morgan Selph welcomed the visitors, and board members introduced themselves. Doug Hill introduced Scott Wilkinson from ASWN who was attending to present some preliminary ideas and costs on renovating the Armory building.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Bob Vanbibber made a motion to approve the May 12, 2010 board minutes as written. Dani Murakami seconded. Motion was unanimous.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS**

No citizens.

## **CONSIDER PROPOSED USES OF ARMORY BUILDING**

Doug Hill introduced this topic by stating that Murray City had purchased 1.2 acres of property from the U. S. National Guard with funds from the Salt Lake County Open Space Fund. He stated that the property sits next to park property and behind the Boys & Girls Club. Doug said that there have been several discussions on the use of the property. Doug reported that currently the building is being used to store floats, the baseball people within the community would like to have indoor batting cages, and several staff members, as well as the Mayor's office, would like to see the building as a multi-use, community room. Doug said that not knowing the condition of the building, ASWN was hired to study the building.

Doug said that the Mayor would like a recommendation from the Parks & Recreation Board, if the board felt comfortable in making a recommendation, as to their thoughts on the use of the building in order to move forward.

Doug turned the time over to Scott Wilkinson for a Power Point presentation on the building.

Scott Wilkinson said that the building is fairly old and does not meet current seismic standards. He said the walls were masonry without any reinforcement. ASWN had a structural engineer review the building, and some ideas were to create a shell on the inside of the existing building by adding steel to existing masonry columns which support the roof trusses. These columns could then be braced with an angle cross bracing. The cost for implementing this shell to make the building structurally safe would be \$250,000. Scott Wilkinson presented a cost comparison of constructing a new building versus making the old building structurally safe. A new metal building with brick on the outside would cost approximately \$340,750 – a difference of \$90,750. Both these costs are building shells, nothing on the inside.

Scott Wilkinson then showed an overlay of seating within the shell of the building with restrooms, a serving area, and storage on both ends of the building with a center divider so the space could be used for two functions or left open for a larger function. There could be a seating capacity of approximately 250 people.

ASWN also did an overlay of two basketball courts. Basketball courts would fit; however, the ceiling height would not be feasible. They also overlaid some batting cages which could work.

Doug Hill stated that the City did not ask ASWN to go any further with studies on the building or additional costs for finishing the building interior at this time. He said that the use of the building still needs to be determined, and the City will be looking into possible funding to go toward this building. Doug reported that the Mayor is looking into federal funding, and application for this funding would need to take place by October.

Bob Vanbibber asked if there was a possibility that the building be demolished and the area made into open green space as part of the park. Doug said this could be an option. He also commented that there has been discussion about a skateboard park. Doug said that what has been talked about mostly from the community are batting cages or multi-use athletics. Cory Plant commented that if an indoor field house were to be considered that the building should be demolished and rebuilt; he said two such structures could be built on the space. On the other hand, Cory also commented that several calls a week are turned away because the City has no indoor, community facilities.

Morgan Selph said he felt it would be worth spending more dollars, if possible, to upgrade the roofing, provide more sunlight, etc. rather than doing just the minimum to bring the building to current seismic standards.

Bob Vanbibber made a motion that the City move forward to investigate funding to use the existing building for a common, general use facility. Dani Murakami seconded. Vote was unanimous.

### **CONSIDER PROPOSED FEE INCREASES AT THE PARK CENTER**

Doug Hill gave the board members a packet of proposed changes to the ordinance pertaining to fee changes for The Park Center. Doug said that fee changes were consistent with a 15% increase across the board on fees which include daily admission and membership fees. The proposed fee increases would generate about an additional \$100,000 a year in revenue. Currently, The Park Center is running at about 56% self-sufficiency; the additional revenue would bring the center to about 67% self-sufficiency.

Cory Plant commented that he supported the fee increases at The Park Center; however, he wondered if this was the best time for fee increases given the economic conditions. Marci Williams said that she did feel okay with this because the center will be able to offer members who commit to a one or two year membership plan before the increases take place at existing rates. She also said that there have been no increases since the center opened eight years ago other than to include the tax on memberships.

Bob Vanbibber made a motion to recommend the 15% increase in Park Center fees as proposed in the revised ordinance packet. Dani Murakami seconded. Vote was unanimous.

### **DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Doug Hill reported that the golf course is struggling with revenues. There may have to be some adjustments made at the golf course.

Doug also reported on the Mayor's initiative called America in Bloom. This is a beautification initiative around the city. He said Parks & Recreation was involved in sprucing up areas around the city. Judges from this program were in the city two weeks ago, and Murray City will be notified in September as to whether or not the city qualified for this award.

Doug asked the board whether they wanted to hold a meeting in August which is typically a month no meeting is held; he said there were no pressing issues. The board was unanimous in deciding that the next regularly scheduled meeting would be held September 8, 2010.

Meeting adjourned at approximately 6:45pm.